



**Student Career Experience Program
9 Steps of Conservation Planning**

Phase I – Collection and Analysis

1. Step 1 – Identify problems and opportunities: Identify resource problems, opportunities, and concerns in the planning area.
2. Step 2 – Determine objectives: Identify and document the client's objectives.
3. Step 3 – Inventory Resources: Inventory the natural resources and their condition, and the economic and social consideration related to the resources. This includes on-site and related off-site conditions.
4. Step 4 – Analyze Resource Data: Analyze the resource information gathered in Planning Step 3 to clearly define the natural resource conditions, along with economic and social issues related to the resources. This includes problems and opportunities.

Phase II – Decision Support

5. Step 5 – Formulate Alternatives: Formulate alternatives that will achieve the client's objectives, solve natural resource problems, and take advantage of opportunities to improve or protect resource conditions.
6. Step 6 – Evaluate Alternatives: Evaluate the alternatives to determine their effects in addressing the client's objectives and the natural resource problems and opportunities. Evaluate the project effects on social, economic, and ecological concerns. Special attention must be given to those ecological values protected by law or Executive Order.
7. Step 7 – Make Decisions: The client selects the alternative(s) and works with the planner to schedule conservation system and practice implementation. The planner prepares the necessary documentation.

Phase III – Application and Evaluation

8. Step 8 – Implement the Plan: The client implements the selected alternative(s). The planner provides encouragement to the client for continued implementation.
9. Step 9 – Evaluate the Plan: Evaluate the effectiveness of the plan as it is implemented and make adjustments as needed.